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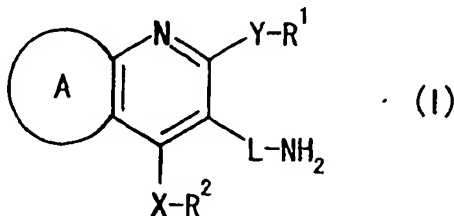
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(54) Title: FUSED HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS



(57) Abstract: A compound represented by the formula wherein ring A is an optionally substituted 5- to 10-membered aromatic ring; R₁ and R₂ are the same or different and each is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group; X and Y are the same or different and each is a bond, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, or -NR₃- (R₃ is a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group); and L is a divalent hydrocarbon group, or a salt thereof shows a superior peptidase-inhibitory activity and is useful as a prophylactic or therapeutic agent of diabetes and the like.